

## SOUTHEASTERN LIMIT OF CHAMAECYPARIS THYOIDES

DANIEL B. WARD

The Atlantic white-cedar, *Chamaecyparis thyoides* (L.) BSP., has long been understood to extend from southern Maine along the Coastal Plain through northern Florida and west to southern Mississippi (Rossbach, 1936; Little, 1953). At the southeastern limit of its range, Atlantic white-cedar was mapped by Korstian (1931), by Munns (1938), and by Brush (1947), as occurring throughout northern Florida and extending down the eastern half of the peninsula to just beyond Cape Canaveral. More recently, James (1961) has mapped *Chamaecyparis* in the Southeast and, although showing a gap in distribution between northeastern and western Florida, indicates six stations for the species in the northeastern part of the state.

Atlantic white-cedar does grow in western Florida, often forming dense stands in cool stream bottoms from Liberty County to the western edge of the state. Additional stations are known in Georgia; James records four. But south of the Georgia line and east of Liberty County, Florida, *Chamaecyparis* is one of the rarest of native trees. Herbarium records and confirmable published descriptions support the existence of only a single station of white-cedar in all of Florida east of Liberty County. A second station is now known, and the source of the erroneous published records has been traced.

For many years it has been common knowledge among botanists in Florida that there was a small stand of *Chamaecyparis* 4 miles south of Interlachen, Putnam County. West and Arnold (1946) apparently were the first to publish a note on the presence of the species in this area. Specimens from this station have been widely distributed and form the basis for James' southernmost record. This stand has recently been re-investigated and found to be much more extensive than previously thought. Scattered trees, and occasionally denser groupings, occur for several miles along a